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## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## Testimony in Support of PG 317–21: Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Sunday Off-Sale Permit

PG 317-21 will simply expand Sunday off-sale permits to all class A and B liquor license holders in Prince George's County. This is a measure to support our small business owners in the County, who unnecessarily suffer as a result of this restriction to their business model. Passage of this bill will allow our license holders to grow their consumer base and continue to operate in a deeply competitive retail market.

We also added provisions to PG 317-21 to ensure the holders of these licenses are held accountable. First, we are adding language that will increase penalties on license holders for the sale of alcohol to minors, from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Second, we are adding a mandatory 10-year debarment for any licensee that commits a felony involving their business. These provisions will help to deter any corrupt or nefarious activities.

Additionally, the subcommittee adopted an amendment that eliminates the current limitations on these permits in the County.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for a favorable report on PG 317-21.